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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Research Administration

Inventory of Voluntary Research Planning Groups

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In a recent discussion of members of the staff of the Office of the Administrator of A.R.A. it was generally agreed that voluntary research planning groups constituted an important step in the development of cooperative and coordinated research programs. Each member of the staff was aware of certain organizations that were effective but no one had a clear picture of the extent to which planning groups have been established by the State experiment stations and by the States in cooperation with various groups in the Department. It was agreed that such organizations were worthy of study.

It is evident that the Congressional Act which established the Department of Agriculture intended that it should serve all states of the Union. It is equally evident that the Hatch Act which established Federal aid to State experiment stations was intended to strengthen the national economy. Since the beginning of the experiment station system groups have gotten together to discuss state, regional, and national problems. There are available many records which report the banding together of specialists in adjoining states to plan coordinated attacks

on mutual problems. It is significant that the Research and Marketing Act of 1946 recognized the importance of this function in providing support under Section 9b3 "for cooperative research in which two or more state agricultural experiment stations are cooperating to solve problems that concern the agriculture of more than one state."

In preparation for the study of existing planning groups a list of questions was prepared to cover what seemed to be the essential facts required. These were discussed with associates on the staff and revisions were made. The questions submitted to each of the bureaus of A.R.A. are as follows:

Name of Group
Subject Matter covered
States represented
Federal agencies represented
Outside agencies (Industry, Farm) represented
Frequency of meetings
When was the group organized?
What is the usual attendance at planning meetings?
Are the functions of the organization covered by a memorandum of understanding?
Does the group issue reports on research plans?
Does the group issue progress reports on the cooperative program?
What officers serve the group?
What are the advantages that have been derived from having this voluntary organization for cooperative planning and coordination?

The rather complete returns received from each of the bureaus indicate that the questions received careful consideration. The replies reflect a general interest in the matter of group consideration

of mutual problems.

Study of the returns indicates that most important commodities and functions of the Department have one or more groups interested in the associated problems. Some of the planning groups were initiated by the State experiment stations and others were started by joint State-Federal action. Some of the groups are representative of one of the major regions while others include one or a few states of a region. Groups of more recent origin cover the country by regions systematically while some of the older groups overlap and are less systematically arranged. A reexamination of some of the groups might suggest better distribution and possible consolidations. The commodity and functional groups have been arranged on the following pages in alphabetical order. The official name of the group is recorded and this is followed briefly in parentheses by (1) the general scope of subject matter covered, and (2) the states, bureaus, and others participating. The states listed indicate the geographical scope of the work and the State experiment stations participating. The record should have value in indicating the present groups that give consideration to regional agricultural problems. From the standpoint of multiplicity of groups we may have already reached the point of diminishing returns in the case of certain subjects.

Organizations for Voluntary Planning and Coordination of

Agricultural Research

1953

Subject Classification	Name of Organization, Subject Matter, Participating Groups
Animal Pathology and Parasites	Conference of Research Cooperators on X-Disease (Hyperkeratosis of Cattle) (All research on cause, pathology and prevention of X-disease or hyperkeratosis of cattle) (N.Y., Penna., Nebr., Tenn., Ga., Tex., Ill., Ind., Ala., Va., Wisc., N.J., Conn., N. D., Mont., Colo., Mich.; A.R.A., B.A.I., and BPISAE)
	Vibrosis Committee, F.A.O. (All phases of vibrosis problem) (The United States and various countries of Europe, and B.A.I.)
	Brucellosis Research Conference (Brucellosis) (Those engaged in Brucellosis research and B.A.I.)
	Expert Panel on Brucellosis, F.A.O./W.H.O. (Brucellosis) (Most countries throughout the world, B.A.I.)
	National Brucellosis Committee (All phases of Brucellosis problem) (Representatives from various organizations and institutions, Farm Bureau, cattle and swine breeders' associations, public health, research institute, meat packers, etc.; B.A.I.)
	Northeastern Cooperative Regional Project, N.E.-1 (Causes and prevention of reproductive failure in dairy cattle) (Northeastern states, South Carolina, West Va.; Ontario Veterinary College, Canada; B.A.I. and B.D.I.)
	Anaplasmosis Research (All phases of the anaplasmosis problem) (Kansas, Louisiana, Okla., Tex., Fla.; B.A.I.)
	Conference on Parasites and Parasitic Diseases of Sheep and Cattle, including Control Measures (Colo., Mont., N. M., N. Dak., S. Dak.; B.A.I.)
	Collaborators U. S. Regional Animal Disease Research Laboratory (Bovine coccidrosis, worm parasites of cattle, and Johne's disease of cattle) (Southern States, B.A.I.)

Beef Cattle

North Central Livestock Marketing Research Committee (NCM-3 and NCM-9) (The distribution, grading, and marketing of livestock and meat) (North Central States, B.A.I., B.A.E., and P.M.A.)

Technical Committee - Cooperative Regional Project S-10 (Improvement of cattle for the Southern Region through breeding) (Southern States, B.A.I. and O.E.S.)

Technical Committee - Cooperative Regional Project NC-1 (Improvement of beef cattle through breeding in the North Central Region) (North Central States, B.A.I. and O.E.S.)

Technical Committee - Cooperative Regional Project W-1 (Improvement of beef cattle through application of breeding methods in the western region) (Ariz., Calif., Colo., Hawaii, Idaho, Mont., Nev., N. M., Ore., Wash., and Wyo.; B.A.I. and O.E.S.)

Cereals

North Central Corn Improvement Conference (breeding for quality, yield, disease and insect resistance) (North Central Region, B.P.I.S.A.E., B.E.P.Q., and B.A.I.C.)

Northeastern Corn Improvement Conference (breeding for quality, yield, disease and insect resistance) (Northeastern region and Canada; B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Southern Corn Improvement Conference (breeding for quality, yield, disease and insect resistance) (Southern region, B.P.I.S.A.E. and B.E.P.Q.)

Hard Red Winter Wheat Conference (breeding, disease control, quality) (Kan., Nebr., Okla., Tex., Colo., Wyo., Mont., S. Dak., Minn.; B.P.I.S.A.E. and B.E.P.Q.; milling and baking industries)

Eastern Wheat Conference (breeding, disease resistance, quality) (Ohio, Ind., Ill., Mich., N. Y., Penna., N. J., and Mo.; B.P.I.S.A E., B.E.P.Q.; milling and baking industries)

Hard Red Spring Wheat Conference (breeding, disease control, and quality of hard red spring and durum wheat) (N. Dak., S. Dak., Minn., Mont., Wyo., Nebr., Wisc., B.P.I.S.A.E. and B.E.P.Q.)

Cereals (cont'd)

Western Wheat Conference (breeding, disease control, and quality) (Wash., Ore., Idaho, Calif., Ariz., Utah, and Mont.; B.P.I.S.A.E.; milling and baking industries)

National Association of Wheat Growers (production, utilization, and marketing of wheat) (18 states: North Central States, Calif., Md., Wash., Ore., Texas; growers; railroad, fertilizer, farm machinery, and milling companies; grain cooperatives; Rust Prevention Association; Grain Feed Dealers Association; B.A.I.C. and B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Western Wheat Quality Laboratory Advisory Committee (Wheat quality studies) (P.M.A., B.A.I.C., B.P.I.S.A.E.; 11 Western States: Ore., Wash., Mont., and Idaho most active)

Oregon Wheat Commission (To promote wider use of Oregon wheat) (Oregon College and State Department of Agriculture, B.A.I.C., Oregon Wheat Growers' League)

North Central Soft Wheat Technical Committee (Breeding soft winter wheats for disease and insect resistance, milling and baking quality, adaptation and yield) (Ohio, Mich., Ind., Ill., Wisc., and Mo.)

National Barley Improvement Conference (breeding, genetics, pathology, and quality (All states that grow barley; B.P.I.S.A.E. and B.E.P.Q.)

North Central Barley Improvement Conference (North Central States; B.P.I.S.A.E., B.E.P.Q.; Malt Research Institute, Midwest Barley Improvement Association)

Winter Barley Improvement Conference (Southern States, B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Western States Barley Improvement Conference (Western States, B.P.I.S.A.E., B.E.P.Q.)

National Oats Conference (breeding, disease control, production and utilization of oats) (29 states represented in 1952, B.P.I.S.A.E.)

North Central Oats Conference (North Central States; B.P.I.S.A.E.; seed processing and fertilizer companies)

Northeastern Oats Conference (Northeastern States and B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Southern Oats Conference (Southern States and B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Cereals (Cont'd)

Rice Technical Committee (production, utilization, and marketing of rice) (Ark., Calif., Tex., La., and Miss.; B.A.I.C., P.M.A., B.E.P.Q., and B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Rice Industry Advisory Committee (rice handling, milling, and utilization) (Rice industry; La., Ark., Texas; B.A.I.C.)

California Rice Exporters (Sub-committee) (Problems of California rice industry) (B.A.I.C., P.M.A., B.P.I.S.A.E.; rice growers and millers)

Cereal Grains Research Collaborators (Review current and future research program of N.R.R. Lab.) (Two members recommended by North Central Experiment Station Directors and three recommended by Corn Industries Research Foundation; B.A.I.C.)

Brewers Yeast Council, Inc. (Utilization of brewers yeast as a source of proteins, vitamins, and growth factor for humans, poultry, and livestock) (Penna., Md., Mich.; University of Chicago, Cornell; B.A.I.C.; Q.M. Food and Containers Institute, National Institute of Health, and industry)

Distillers Feed Research Council, Inc. (Utilization of distillers' by-products as feeds) (Ky., Cornell, Mich., Texas, Iowa, Dela., Purdue through contracts; B.A.I.C., B.A.I., and Atomic Energy Commission; industrial distillers)

S-13 Breeding, culture, fertilization, and storage of small grains in the South (Southern States, B.P.I.S.A.E. and B.E.P.Q.)

Stored Grain Insect Conference (Protection of southern-grown grain from attacks of stored-grain insects) (Southern States, B.E.P.Q., B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Cotton

Steering Committee for Winter Planting Services in Mexico (To accelerate cotton genetics and breeding by growing a winter crop) (Open to all cotton growing states; B.P.I.S.A.E.; National Cotton Council, and other industry groups)

Long Staple Cotton Committee (Extra long staple cotton production and quality problems) (Ariz., N. M., and Texas; P.M.A., B.H.N.H.E., and B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Cotton (Cont'd)

Cotton Improvement Conference (agronomy of cotton, particularly breeding) (All cotton states; commercial cotton breeders; B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Cotton Research Clinic (Cotton processing research) (N.C. and S. C. Textile Schools; B.P.I.S.A.E., B.A.I.C., P.M.A.; National Cotton Council, and cotton mill laboratories)

Textile Research Institute Cotton Research Project. Research Advisory Committee (Cotton fiber quality and spinning performance) (B.A.I.C., P.M.A., and B.P.I.S.A.E.; textile industry research group)

Cotton Disease Council (Major cotton diseases of Cotton Belt) (Practically all cotton growing states and B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Committee on Cotton Seedling Diseases (Cotton seed treatment) (Practically all cotton growing states and B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Cotton Abscission Research Conference (Chemical defoliation and causes of bloom and fruit shedding) (Calif., Ariz., Texas, Miss., Ark.; and B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Beltwide Cotton Defoliation Conference (Chemical defoliation) (All of cotton states except N. C., Fla., and N. M.; B.P.I.S.A.E., B.E.P.Q., B.A.E., C.A.A., P.M.A.; agricultural chemical and equipment companies)

Spinner Breeder Conference (Sponsored by the Advisory Research Committee of Delta Council) (Breeding and spinning of cottons, variety performance, maintenance of identity, and marketing) (Most of Cotton Belt; B.P.I.S.A.E., P.M.A., B.A.I.C.; textile industry, cotton breeders)

Cotton Merchandising Clinic (Merchandising of cotton and methods of objective evaluating the physical properties of cotton) (Cotton producing states, though mainly Texas; P.M.A., B.A.I.C.; cotton merchants and manufacturers)

Cotton Seed Processing Clinic (Oil seed processors problems, cotton seed, and cotton seed products) (Cotton oil mills and equipment manufacturers; P.M.A., B.A.I.C.)

Cotton (Cont'd)

Cooperative Cotton Oil Mills Conference (Program for instruction of cooperatives in management and technology; F.C.A., B.A.I.C.)

Working Group in Improving Nutritional Properties of Cotton Seed Meal (Relation of processing to nutritive values) (Cotton states and B.A.I.C., B.A.I., B.H.N.H.E., B.A.E., P.M.A.; cottonseed processors, feed manufacturers)

Insect Control Section of State-wide Cotton Committee of Texas (control of insects attacking cotton) (Texas, B.E.P.Q. and F.H.A.)

S.M.-1 Regional Cotton Marketing Research (including cotton seed and other products) (Cotton states; B.A.E., B.P.I.S.A.E., and P.M.A.)

S-1 Research and plant science for improvement of cotton (Basic studies of cotton genetics) (La., Miss., N. C., Texas, and N. M.; B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Dairy Cattle

N.C.-2 Technical Committee - North Central Cooperative Dairy Cattle Breeding (Dairy cattle breeding) (Ill., Ind., Iowa, Kan., Mich., Minn., Mo., Nebr., Ohio, S. Dak., Wisc.; B.D.I., O.E.S.)

W.-2 Technical Committee - Western Cooperative Regional Project (Causes and prevention of breeding failure in dairy cattle) (Colo., Idaho, Ore., Utah, Wash., B.D.I.)

S-3 Technical Committee - Southern Cooperative Regional Project (Dairy cattle breeding) (Ark., Ga., La., N. C., S. C., Tenn., Texas, Puerto Rico; B.D.I.)

N.E.-1 Technical Committee, Northeastern Cooperative Regional Project (Causes and prevention of reproductive failure in dairy cattle) (Conn., N. Y., Del., Maine, Ind., N. H., N. J., Penna., R. I., S. C., Vt., West Va.; B.A.I. and B.D.I.)

Dairy Products

Research Committee of the National Cheese Institute (Cheese investigations) (B.D.I. and Industry)

Food Container Institute of the U. S. Army Quartermaster Corps (Foods and food containers) (Public Health, Army, Navy, B.D.I. and other U. S. agencies; industry)

Dairy Products (Cont'd)	Evaporated Milk Association (Technical problems of the evaporated milk) (B.D.I. and industry; state experiment stations working on evaporated milk)
Farm Buildings and Rural Housing	A.S.A.E. Advisory Committee on Farm Buildings and Rural Housing (Advisory to Division of Farm Buildings and Rural Housing) Committee selected by President of A.S.A.E.
	N.C.-3 Farm Structures and related equipment for certified Farmstead operations (Kans., Mich., Minn., Mo., Wisc.; B.P.I.S.A.E.)
	N.E.-7 Space, Facility and Structural Requirements for Farm Houses in the Northeast (Conn., Maine, N. J., N. Y., Penna., R. I., West Va.; B.P.I.S.A.E.)
Farm Electrification	A.S.A.E. Farm Electrification Committee (Advisory Committee includes electric equipment manufacturers, power suppliers, farm press, and representatives of experiment stations. Review existing work and recommend new work)
Farm Machinery	Committee on cleaning and harvesting seed (Seed steering committee for cooperative research) (Oregon and B.P.I.S.A.E.)
	A.S.A.E. Advisory Committee to Division of Farm Machinery (Review activities of Division) (Representatives of two states, and industry; B.P.I.S.A.E.)
	American Sugarcane League Farm Machinery Advisory Committee (Reviews research and suggests needs) (Two states; representatives of the sugar cane industry; B.P.I.S.A.E.)
	Sub-committee on Fertilizer Machinery for Research (National Joint Committee on Fertilizer Application) (Special fertilizer distributing machines and equipment) (N. Y., Ga., N. C., Nebr., Texas, Wash., Mich., Calif.; B.P.I.S.A.E.; International Harvester Co., and Deere & Co.)
	Committee on Fertilizer Application of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers (Fertilizer application methods and equipment) (N.C., S.C., Texas, Nebr., Mich., Ind., N.Y., Miss., Wash.; B.P.I.S.A.E., O.E.S.: S. L. Allen & Co., Hansen Bros., International Harvester Co., and Deere & Co.)

Farm Machinery (Cont'd)	National Joint Committee on Fertilizer Application (Fertilizer Applications) (Practically all states through three national societies and three national associations; B.P.I.S.A.E.; and industry)
	Pesticide and Application Equipment Advisory Committee (The use of pesticides and application equipment (B.P.I.S.A.E., B.E.P.Q., and representatives of industry)
	S-2 The Mechanization of Cotton Production, Harvesting, Ginning, and Cleaning (Ala., Ark., Georgia, Miss., N. C., Okla., S. C., Texas, La., Ariz., N. M.; B.P.I.S.A.E.)
Food Industries	Food Industries Liaison Group (Food and related industries) (Nationwide) (B.E.P.Q., Fish and Wild Life(as conferees only); food industries)
	Chemistry Sub-committee of Food Protection Committee, National Research Council (Chemistry of materials used in production and processing of foods) (Department of Agriculture; Food and Drug Administration)
Food and Nutrition	Southern Cooperative Group (Research on composition and nutritive value of foods as affected by soil, weather, and other productive factors.) (Ala., Ark., Ga., La., Miss., N. C., S. C., Okla., P. R., Tex., Va.; B.P.I.S.A.E., B.H.N.H.E., O.E.S.)
Forest Pests	Research sub-committee of Northwest Forest Pest Action Committee (Research on forest insects and diseases) (Oregon and Washington; B.E.P.Q. and F.S.)
	California Forest Pest Control Council (Research on forest insects and diseases) (California; B.E.P.Q., B.P.I.S.A.E., and F. S.)
	Consultants in Forest Pest Control (Forest insect and forest disease activities) (National; B.E.P.Q., B.P.I.S.A.E., F.S., and Interior)
	Blister Rust Resistance Research Group (Blister Rust resistance of pine trees) (All states conducting research on this problem; Canada; B.E.P.Q., B.P.I.S.A.E., F.S.)

Fruits and Vegetables

Peach Breeding (States east of Rocky Mountains and Canada; B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Peach Workers (Disease and insect control) (Southeastern States; B.P.I.S.A.E. and B.E.P.Q.)

Fruit Workers (Cumberland-Shenandoah) (Production, disease, insects) (B.P.I.S.A.E. and State experiment stations)

Small Fruit Breeders (strawberries, blueberries, raspberries) (Eastern U. S. and Canada; B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Horticulturists, Entomologists, and Plant Patholgists (Fruit and Vegetable production, insects, and disease) (Pacific Northwest) (Ore., Wash., Idaho, Mont., and B. C.; B.P.I.S.A.E. and B.E.P.Q.)

Vegetable Breeding (Resistance to disease and insects, yield and quality) (South; Charleston V. B. Lab.; B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Sweet Potato Breeding (Breeding techniques, inheritance disease resistance, high quality) (South; Kansas and Missouri; B.P.I.S.A.E.)

National Potato Breeding (Quality and resistance to disease and insects) (Breeders and Pathologists) (National and regional) (B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Onion Breeding (Standard and Hybrid varieties, disease and insect resistant) (Informal regional field meetings to observe stocks at harvest and after storage; B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Technical Committee, Canners League of California (Fruit canning waste disposal and utilization) (California canning industry, B.A.I.C.)

Dried Fruit Association of California (Technical Committee) San Francisco, Calif. (Processing, storage, and preservation of dried fruits) (University of California, dried fruit industry and B.A.I.C.)

Citrus Fruit Advisory Technical Committee (Citrus research) (B.P.I.S.A.E., B.A.I.C.: Calif., Ariz.; industry)

Committee on Citrus Products - Subcommittee on the microbiology of Citrus Products (Nicrobiology of unpasteurized citrus juices) (California and Florida; industry in Calif., Fla., Tex.; National Canners Association; B.A.I.C.)

Fruits and Vegetables (cont'd)

Pesticide Research Advisory Committee (Pesticide residues in fruits and vegetables, particularly from standpoint of development of foreign flavors in processed products) (Wash., Ore., and Idaho; B.A.I.C.; Northwest Frozen Foods Assn., and Northwest Canners)

Frozen Food Association Technical Committee (Research on processing and handling of frozen foods) (Wash., Ore., and B.A.I.C.)

S.M.-5 Marketing early Irish potatoes (Fla., N. C., S. C.; B.P.I.S.A.E. and B.A.E.)

Northwest Canners' Association Technical Committee (Research on canned foods and raw materials for canning) (Wash., Ore.; B.P.I.S.A.E., B.E.P.Q., B.A.I.C.;National Canners' Assn. Laboratories, Agricultural Chemical Industries)

Industry Research Panel, Weslaco Station (Fruits and vegetables of the Rio Grande Valley) (Texas; B.A.I.C., B.P.I.S.A.E.)

N.C.-14 Stone fruit virus diseases and their control (North Central States and B.P.I.S.A.E.)

N.E.M.-3 Studies of merchandising and consumer acceptance of quality and condition, and the development of quality tests for vegetables marketed in the Northeast) (B.A.E., B.P.I.S.A.E., P.M.A.; Md., N. H., N. J., N. Y.)

N.E.M.-4 Marketing and distribution of potatoes (Maine, Md., N. H., N. J.; B.A.E., B.P.I.S.A.E., P.M.A.)

Northwest Vegetable Insect Conference (Research and extension work on insects of vegetables) (Northwest; B.E.P.Q.)

The Pea Aphid Control Committee of the Northwest Canners' Association (Control of the pea aphid and pea weevil in the Blue Mountain area) (Wash., Ore., and Idaho; B.E.P.Q.)

Ornamentals Laboratory Advisory Committee (Ornamental Research Laboratory, Farmingdale, L. I.) (N. Y.; B.E.P.Q.)

I.R.-1 Introduction, preservation, classification, distribution, and preliminary evaluation of wild and cultivated species of Solanum (B.P.I.S.A.E.; Nebr., N. Y., Tex., Wash., Wisc.)

Fruits and Vegetables (cont'd)	W.M.-2 Improving the marketing of western deciduous tree fruits (B.A.E., B.P.I.S.A.E.; Calif., Colo., Hawaii, Idaho, Ore., Utah, Wash.)
Honey	Honey Utilization Committee, American Bee Keepers Federation (To encourage and promote wider industrial use of honey. To encourage and urge expansion of research on honey.) (B.A.I.C. and industry)
Maple Sirup	Informal Maple Advisory Committee (Review of Eastern Regional Research Laboratory research program to improve the quality and to develop new uses of maple sirup. Recommends new research) (Vt., N. Y., N. H., Penna., Ohio, Wisc., Mich., and Minn.; maple industry)
Insects Affecting Man and Animals	Meeting of Zoological Division and Man and Animal Division (Research programs on insects affecting livestock) (B.A.I., B.E.P.Q.)
	Tri-Lab. Meeting (Research programs on insects affecting man) (National) (U. S. Public Health, Tennessee Valley Authority, and B.E.P.Q.)
Insecticides	Division of Medical Sciences, N.R.C., Subcommittee on Animal Reservoirs and Vectors of Disease (Insect control) (National; B.E.P.Q.)
	Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association -- Committees Aerosol Scientific and Subcommittees on standards (Preparing and standardizing methods for household aerosols insecticides) (U.S.D.A. and U. S. Public Health Service; insecticide manufacturers)
	Insecticide scientific committee of the Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association (Cooperative research between industry and federal agencies on standardized tests, insect cultures, test methods, and reference insecticides for evaluation of household sprays) (U.S.D.A. and industry)
Insect Problems	North Central States Regional Technical Committee on Entomology (Entomological problems of the North Central States) (North Central States and B.E.P.Q.)

Naval Stores

Gum Naval Industry Group (Research Program of Naval Stores Division) (S.C., Ga., Fla., Ala., Miss.; industry; B.A.I.C.: representatives of Turpentine Farmers Assn., and processors)

Gum Processors Association (Research Program of Naval Stores Research Division) (Ga., Fla., and Ala.; processors; B.A.I.C.)

New Plants

N.C.-7 The introduction, multiplication, preservation, and determination of potential value of new plants for industrial and other purposes, and for the preservation of valuable germ plasm of economic plants (Ind., Iowa, Kan., Minn., Mo., Nebr., N. Dak., Ohio; B.P.I.S.A.E., and S.C.S.)

N.E.-9 The introduction, multiplication, preservation, and determination of potential value of new plants for industrial and other purposes, and for the preservation of valuable germ plasm of economic plants (Northeastern Region, B.P.I.S.A.E.)

S-9 The introduction, multiplication, preservation, and determination of potential value of new plants for industrial and other purposes, and for the preservation of valuable germ plasm of economic plants (B.P.I.S.A.E.; Ala., Ark., Ga., Fla., La., N. C., P.R., S. C., Tenn., Tex., Md.)

Pasture and Forage

Alfalfa Improvement Conference (Research, genetics, breeding, insect and disease resistance, seed production) (40 states, 6 Canadian provinces, integrated with regional programs; B.P.I.S.A.E. and B.E.P.Q.)

Eastern Alfalfa Improvement Conference

Central Alfalfa Improvement Conference

Western Alfalfa Improvement Conference

Alfalfa Research Council of the American Dehydrators Assn. (Nutritional and processing research on alfalfa) (Colo., Ill., Ind., Nebr., and Penna; B.A.I.C., B.P.I.S.A.E.; alfalfa processors, feed manufacturers, equipment manufacturers)

Pasture and Forage (cont'd)

Collaborators of U. S. Regional Pasture Research Laboratory (Breeding and improvement, genetics, cytology, physiology, and composition; soils selections, and diseases of grasses and legumes) (Northeastern states; B.P.I.S.A.E. and O.E.S.)

Western Grass Breeders Work Planning Conference (Cytogenetics, genetics, breeding, introduction and testing of grasses) (Western states; B.P.I.S.A.E., S.C.S., F.S.)

Southern Pasture and Forage Crops Improvement Conference (Breeding, production, and management of pasture grasses and legumes) (Southern states; B.P.I.S.A.E., B.A.I., B.D.I., F.S. and S.C.S.)

Planning Conference of the Foundation Seed Project (Production and distribution of superior forage crop varieties) (National in scope, 36 states cooperating; B.P.I.S.A.E., P.M.A.; International Crop Improvement Assn., American Seed Trade)

S.-12 Technical Committee - Southern Regional Project (Production and utilization of forage crops in the South) (Thirteen southern states and Puerto Rico; B.P.I.S.A.E., B.A.I., B.D.I.)

N.C.-11 Breeding and evaluating the small-seeded grasses and legumes for the North Central Region. Regional uniform nursery trials of small-seeded legumes and grasses. (North Central States and B.P.I.S.A.E.)

N.E.-10 Management, breeding, and utilization of forage crops adapted to the northeast: The evaluation of forage crop varieties and strains for use and adaptation in the Northeast. (Md., N. J., N. H., N. Y., Penna., R. I., Vt., W. Va.; B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Forage Insect Conference (All phases of research on insects attacking forage) (North Central and Eastern Regions; B.E.P.Q.)

Northeastern Forage Crop Technical Committee (Management, breeding, and utilization of forage) (North Central and Eastern states; B.E.P.Q., O.E.S., Extension Service)

Pesticides

Inter-Departmental Committee on Pest Control (Agriculture, Interior, Federal Security, Army, Navy, Air Corps)

Pesticides (cont'd)

Pesticide and Application Equipment Advisory Committee (The use of pesticides and application equipment) (B.P.I.S.A.E. and B.E.P.Q.; manufacturers of spray and dusting equipment and pesticides)

Pesticide Research Advisory Committee (Pesticides residues in fruits and vegetables, particularly from the standpoint of development of foreign flavors in processed products) (Ore., Idaho.; B.A.I.C.; Northwest Frozen Foods Assn. and Northwest Canners Assn.)

Poultry

Institute of American Poultry Industries Research Committee (Poultry and egg research) (Calif., Ind., B.A.I., B.A.I.C., and industry)

Technical Committee -- Cooperative Regional Project S-7 (Breeding of poultry for the Southern States) (Southern States; B.A.I. and O.E.S.)

Technical Committee -- Cooperative Regional Project N.C.-8 (Improvement of quality and productiveness of poultry through breeding) (North Central States; B.A.I. and O.E.S.)

Regional Poultry Research Laboratory -- collaborators. (Viability of poultry) (Conn., Del., Ill., Ind., Iowa., Kans., Maine, Md., Mass., Mich., Minn., Mo., Nebr., N.H., N. J., N. Y., N. Dak., Ohio, Okla., Penna., R. I., S. Dak., Vt., W. Va., Wisc.; and B.A.I.)

Technical Committee -- Cooperative Regional Project W-7 (Breeding improvements in turkeys) (Calif., Colo., Ore., Idaho, Wash.; B.A.I. and O.E.S.)

Poultry Pathology

Southern Regional Technical Committee on Newcastle Disease (9 b 3. R.M.A.) (Newcastle disease and allied respiratory diseases of poultry) (Va., Tex., and Ken.; B.A.I. and O.E.S.)

Northeastern Regional Technical Committee on Newcastle Disease (Newcastle disease and related respiratory problems of poultry) (Northeastern states; B.A.I. and O.E.S.)

Poultry Pathology (cont'd)

North Central Regional Technical Committee on Newcastle Disease (9 b 3 R.M.A.) (Newcastle disease and related respiratory problems of poultry) (North Central states; B.A.I. and O.E.S.)

Air sac Disease Research (Air sac investigations of broilers) (Conn., Dela., Md., N. C., Va., Ga.: B.A.I.)

Sheep

Collaborators -- Western Sheep Breeding Laboratory (Sheep Breeding -- Improvement of sheep for lamb and wool production under range conditions) (Western states; B.A.I. and F.S.)

Soils and Fertilizers

National Soil and Fertilizer Research Advisory Committee (Soils and fertilizers) (Representation from major soil regions; O.E.S., S.C.S., B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Northeastern Regional Soil Research Committee (Soils, fertilizers, drainage, and irrigation) (12 Northeastern states; B.P.I.S.A.E. and S.C.S.)

Southern Regional Soil Research Committee (Soils, (fertilizers, drainage, and irrigation) (12 Southern states; B.P.I.S.A.E. and S.C.S.)

North Central Regional Research Committee (Soils, fertilizers, drainage, and irrigation) (12 North Central states; B.P.I.S.A.E. and S.C.S.)

Western Regional Soil Research Committee (Soils, fertilizers, drainage, and irrigation) (10 Western states; B.P.I.S.A.E. and S.C.S.)

Collaborators to B.P.I.S.A.E.-Soil and Fertilizer Laboratories (Soils and fertilizers) (Chairmen of Regional Soil Research Committees, plus three state representatives from each region; B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Collaborators, U. S. Salinity Laboratory (Relation of saline and alkali soils and irrigation waters to plant growth) (17 Western states and Hawaii; B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Board of Consultants to U. S. Plant, Soil and Nutrition Laboratory (Relationship of soils to plant, animal and human nutrition) (Appointed members represent entire U. S.; B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Soils and Fertilizers (cont'd)

Technical Advisory Committee - U. S. Plant, Soil and Nutrition Laboratory (Relationship of soils to plant, animal, and human nutrition) (B.H.N.H.E., B.D.I., B.A.I., and B.P.I.S.A.E. technical level)

N.C.-17 The role of organic matter and related soil and crop management practices in improving soil structure and other factors affecting productivity (Ill., Ind., Iowa, Kans., Mich., Minn., Mo., Nebr., N. Dak., Ohio, S. Dak., Wisc.; B.P.I.S.A.E.)

N.E.-11 Soil Structure problems in northeast agriculture (Conn., Md., N. H., N. J., N. Y., Penna.; and B.P.I.S.A.E.)

S-5 The effect of wide variations in soil and weather on the growth and nutritive value of vegetables (N. C., P. R., Ark., Ga., Miss., Okla., Tex., and B.P.I.S.A.E.)

S-14 Influence of soil properties on forage crop production and composition in the South. Subproject: The influence of chemical, physical and mineralogical properties of soils on their structure and plant growth (Ark., Fla., Miss., N. C., S. C., Tex.; and B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Soybeans

Southern States Collaborators, U. S. Regional Soybean Laboratory (Culture and improvement) (South and B.P.I.S.A.E.)

North Central States Collaborators, U. S. Regional Soybean Laboratory (Culture and improvement) (North Central states and B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Conference on Nutritive Value of Soybean Oil Meal (Relation of processing methods to nutritive value of soybean oil meal and chemical and physical tests for nutritive value) (Ill., Ohio, Ind., Nebr., N. Y., Minn., Wash., and Mo.; also industry; B.A.I.C., B.A.I., B.H.N.H.E.)

Cooperative Soybean Oil Mills (Processing, varieties, financing oil mills) (Cooperative soybean mills) (Information for cooperatives) (Problems of cooperatives) (B.A.I.C., F.C., and representatives of cooperative soybean oil mills.)

Soy Flour Advisory Committee (Care of soy flour in foods, particularly bread and other bakery foods) (Soya Food Research Council, American Soybean Association, and manufacturers of soy flour; B.A.I.C.)

Soybeans (cont'd)	Symposium on Flavor Stability of Soybean Oil, Soybean Research Council, National Soybean Processors Association (Flavor stability of soybean oil) (Soybean processors, contacts to keep processors informed and to secure first hand processors' problems; B.A.I.C.)
Sugarcane and Sugarbeets	Industrial Committee, American Sugarcane League (All phases of research on sugar, detailed planning of pressing tests on different canes) (B.A.I.C., B.P.I.S.A.E.; Sugarcane League Committee, Louisiana)
	National Confectioners' Association Research Committee (Utilization of agricultural products in candy) (Georgia; B.A.I.C.; Confectioners' Association)
	Technical Committee on Sachs-Le Docte Method (Method of analysis of sugar and sugarbeets) (Calif.; B.A.I.C.; and industry)
Swine	Collaborators - Regional Swine Breeding Laboratory (Swine breeding) (North Central States and B.A.I.)
Tobacco	Tobacco Chemists Research Conference (Chemistry of tobacco and substances in tobacco) (N. C. Ky., Penna., Conn., Va.; T.M.S.C., B.P.I.S.A.E., B.A.I.C., P.M.A.; industry)
	Tobacco Workers' Conference (Production, diseases, insects, and engineering) (Fla., Ga., S. C., N. C., Va.; B.P.I.S.A.E., B.E.P.Q., S.C.S., (industry unofficially))
	Burley Tobacco Workers' Conference (Production, engineering, breeding, curing, disease, insects) (Ky., Tenn., N. C., Va., West Va., Ohio, Ind.; B.P.I.S.A.E., B.E.P.Q.)
	Tobacco Insect Workers' Conference - a part of the Tobacco Workers' Conference (Research and extension work on insects affecting tobacco) (Fla., Ga., S. C., N. C., Va., Tenn., Ky., Penna., Md., and Conn.; B.E.P.Q., Extension Service)

Weed Control

Coordinating Committee of Northeastern Weed Control Conference (Fundamental and applied research on weed control in vegetables and fruit crops) (Md., W. Va., Penna., N. Y., N. J., Mass., N. H., Vt., Maine, Dela., Conn., R. I.; D.W.I., B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Research Committee of the Southern Weed Conference (Control of weeds in cotton and sugarcane, and control of woody plants on range) (Va., N. C., S. C., Ga., Fla., Ala., Miss., La., Tenn., Ky., Ark., Tex.; B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Research Committee of the North Central Weed Control Conference (Weed control in cereal crops, corn, sugarbeets, and flax) (Mich., Ohio, Ind., Ill., Wisc., Minn., N. Dak., S. Dak., Iowa, Nebr., Kans., Mo., Okla.; B.P.I.S.A.E.)

Research Committee of the Western Weed Control Conference (Control of weeds under irrigation and in legume and grass seed production) (Mont., Wyo., Colo., N. M., Ariz., Utah, Wash., Idaho, Calif., Ore.; B.P.I.S.A.E.)

N.C.-10 Eradication or control of weeds and other undesirable plants (North Central States; B.P.I.S.A.E.)

S-18 Weed control investigations in the South (Miss., N. C., La., Tenn., Tex.; B.P.I.S.A.E.)

The Nature of Research Planning Groups

Research planning groups differ as to origin and purpose. In certain regions the state experiment station directors have sponsored joint planning and coordination of research within the regions. In such cases individual directors have acted as advisors to groups of specialists in the region who wish to establish a regional project or program on a problem common to two or more states. This has been particularly true of the New England and North Central States. The practice is also used to a more limited extent in the other regions.

Bureaus of the Department concerned with problems of agricultural production have organized portions of their work on a regional basis and have sought to develop joint planning groups with the states of each region. This procedure has been effective in the coordination of research and in the more efficient use of research resources.

The Bankhead-Jones Act of 1935 under Section 4 provides for a "Special Research Fund, Department of Agriculture" and directs that one half of this fund shall be used by the Secretary for the establishment and maintenance of research laboratories in the major agricultural regions. The nine laboratories established under the provisions of this Act gave considerable stimulus to cooperative planning between the state experiment stations and the Department. The determinations of subject matter and locations of these laboratories were jointly considered by the state experiment stations and the Department. Through the collaboration of representatives from the State experiment

stations and the Department these laboratories have become the focal point for the voluntary integration and coordination of research in the fields which they cover. The Bankhead-Jones laboratories include the U. S. Regional Animal Disease Laboratory at Auburn, Alabama, the U. S. Regional Swine Breeding Laboratory at Ames, Iowa, the U. S. Regional Sheep Breeding Laboratory at Dubois, Idaho, the Regional Poultry Research Laboratory at East Lansing, Michigan, the U. S. Regional Vegetable Breeding Laboratory at Charleston, S. C., the U. S. Regional Pasture Laboratory at State College, Pennsylvania, the U. S. Plant, Soil, and Nutrition Laboratory, Ithaca, N. Y., the U. S. Regional Salinity Laboratory at Riverside, California, and the U. S. Soybean Laboratory at Urbana, Illinois.

Problems are not always regional in nature. Outbreaks of serious animal diseases may occur at one point, at several separate points, or may become generally distributed over the country. Animal pathologists have sought to attack some of these diseases by organized efforts of those working on the disease. The exchange of information within these groups has contributed to coordinated effort and more effective use of resources. The Bureau of Animal Industry is participating in the work of several such groups.

The provisions for regional research by the states in Section 9(b)3 of the Research and Marketing Act has stimulated joint planning of research by the states and Department agencies. Seventy-five of these regional projects were listed with Department participation to the

extent of $2,041,606 in 1953. All of the research agencies of the Department are participating in one or more of these programs.

Several of the planning groups include research workers having related interests in provinces of Canada. Other groups such as the Vibrosis Committee of F. A. O., and Expert Panel on Brucellosis, F.A.O./W.H.O. have international relationship.

Planning groups concerned with the utilization of agricultural products usually include representatives of industry. Some of them are sponsored by industry organizations. The functions of these groups have included standardization of chemical and physical methods such as the work of the Northern Regional Research Laboratory on oil analysis with the soybean milling industry, the work of the Southern Laboratory with cotton testing laboratories on measurements of physical properties of cotton fibers, and the work of the Eastern Laboratory on the chemistry of tobacco. One of the groups, including representation from four bureaus and several states, is concerned with coordinated studies of the influence of variables in methods of cottonseed meal processing upon the nutritive properties of the meal.

One of the important functions of certain planning and coordinating groups is the preparation and issuance of uniform recommendations for the use of growers and interested industries. This has been particularly true of the Southeastern Tobacco research group.

Several groups meet periodically at each of the Regional Research Laboratories to discuss processing problems of various industries and to

acquaint the industry with the work of the laboratories. Such groups include the cottonseed crushers of the South, the inedible animal fats interests at the Eastern Laboratory, the soybean oil interests of the North Central States, and representatives of the wool industry at the Western Laboratory. The meetings of these groups help give direction to the regional laboratory programs and inform key representatives of the industry regarding the progress of research.

Some of the groups listed could not be classified as research planning groups. Several are too large to include planning and co-ordination as a part of their functions and others are limited by the inclusion of representation from non-research groups. Some of the groups are advisory in nature and may be effective in suggesting problems but do not contribute to the joint planning and coordination of research in regional and national problems.

Time of Origin

Among the questions asked about the planning group was the year of its origin. The oldest active group was organized in 1914, and the latest in 1953. Beginning with 1922, periods of eight years are used to indicate the time and number of new groups established. The influence of the Federal grants to States and new appropriations to the Department upon the development of planning groups is marked by periods in which work under the Purnell Act of 1925, the Bankhead-Jones Act of 1935, and the Research and Marketing Act of 1946 was initiated. Planning groups vary

in the frequency of meetings, though the majority meet annually. Some meet semi-annually, while others meet every two to three years or upon call of the chairman. Some of the groups serve their usefulness in a few years, while others continue for several years. Planning groups become inactive or are replaced by other groups when the work for which it was organized is completed.

Time of Origin	Number of Planning Groups
1914	2
1922-1929	10
1930-1937	17
1938-1945	23
1946-1953	125
	177

Number of Persons Participating in Research Planning Groups

The number of persons participating in a research planning group seems important, in fact the number participating may determine whether it is really a planning group or a limited group brought together periodically to discuss specified problems and progress of research. In this connection the history of one group is interesting. The first year there were 14 participating, the next there were 135. The size of the group and the variety of interests may be the determining factors as to whether one is really attending a planning group or a discussion group. It is true that certain large groups divide themselves into sub-groups that may be effective in planning. These are small in number. An analysis of reports received would indicate that about half of those designated as planning groups include too many and varied interests to be effective

planning groups. There needs to be a more definite distinction made between groups set up to inform industry and those set up as research planning groups. Real planning groups appear to be more effective in the initial stages of a new research program.

Number of Persons	Number of Organized Groups
5 - 15	46
15 - 25	50
25 - 35	19
35 - 45	16
45 - 55	7
55 - 65	8
65 - 75	2
75 - 85	5
85 - 95	0
100 and above	16

Participants in Research Planning Groups

Examination of the source of participants in research planning groups indicates that there are 101 in which representatives of the State experiment stations and the Department are active, 80 of the groups include State, Federal, and Industry representatives, 7 are limited to Federal participation and 5 include Federal and Industry representatives. Recently organized groups frequently include representatives of more than one Bureau. Among the groups reported, 79 listed only one bureau, 69 listed two bureaus, and 34 indicated that three or more bureaus were active in the group.

In recent years participation in planning groups is covered by less formal understanding. In the majority of groups, participation of A.R.A. workers is without written understanding. Participation in 106 groups

was not covered by written agreement, while work in 58 groups was covered by memorandum of understanding or a written statement of purpose. Of the group organized for planning, 102 issued written reports on research plans. Groups in which Animal Industry and Plant Industry participated were more frequently covered by written understandings.

Values Derived from Research Planning Groups

Responses to the question on values derived from voluntary research planning groups more accurately describe the purpose of the groups than other segments of the questionnaire. It is clear that some groups are organized primarily as a planning and coordinating group, while others serve as advisory groups or discussion groups. Though the purposes are not always clear cut there appears to be 111 groups of State and Federal representation that meet to plan coordinated regional programs. Among other groups, 63 include advisory groups and industry representatives with whom industry problems are discussed. Such groups have a distinct value as a preliminary to research planning and may have values in coordination. The values attributed to research planning groups are recorded with the frequency in which they occurred in the reports.

Frequency With Which Certain Values Were Recorded

	Number of Groups
Better integration and coordination of State-Federal Research, coordination of plans and techniques. Promotes better understanding between State and Federal agencies. Brought together for coordinated planning several diverse types of skills.	97
Exchange of information and materials	54
Speeds up results	24
Coordination of recommendations on a regional basis	16
Broadens the viewpoint of all	2
Developed the viewpoint and problems of industry	31
Advisory groups from industry outside of R.M.A.	22
Collaborator	2

SUMMARY

This report contains an inventory of 177 research planning and coordinating groups in which research workers of the Agricultural Research Administration participated in 1953.

The groups are recorded according to the subject matter covered.

Some of the groups were established by the State experiment stations and others by the joint action of the States and the Department.

The number and scope of planning groups indicates that a very large part of the research resources of A.R.A. are used in support of jointly planned programs.

The records indicate that about half of reported groups have rather large representation to serve as planning groups though they may be effective in the identification of major industry problems.

Many of the groups are effective in the coordination of research and in the efficient use of research resources.

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